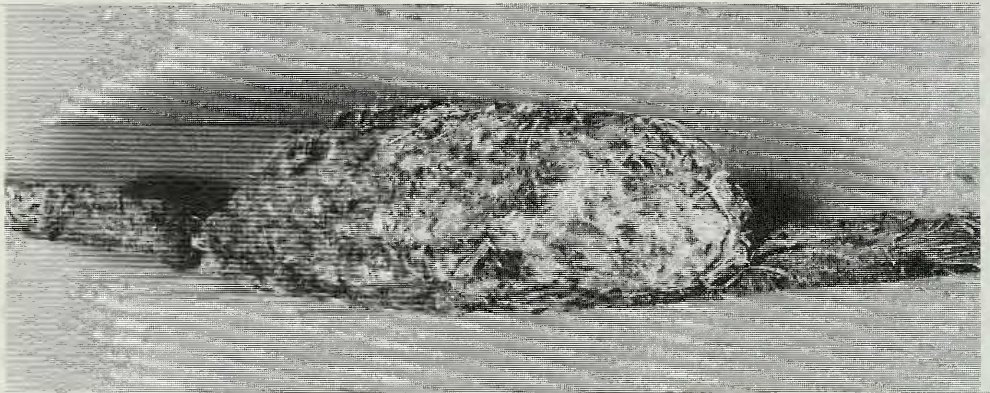


Unusual pupation site for *Cerura vinula* Linnaeus (Lep.: Notodontidae), the Puss Moth.

As most Lepidopterists are aware, this species usually pupates in a deep fissure in the bark of a tree or at the junction of branches of boughs. Crevices in man-made wooden structures have also been used if a larval foodplant is nearby.

Mr J. McWilliam, who operates the Rothamsted Insect Survey light trap at Leverburgh on the Isle of Harris, recently sent me a cylindrical Puss Moth cocoon which was attached to a slender *Salix* twig. This pupation site is remarkable in its similarity to that of many of the burnet moths (*Zygaenidae*) which pupate in similar fashion on grass stalks. The accompanying photograph may be of interest to readers.



Thanks are extended to Gordon Higgins of Rothamsted Photography Department for photographing the cocoon and to Mr McWilliams of Leverburgh.— ADRIAN M. RILEY, Dept. Entomology and Nematology, Inst. Arable Crops Res., Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts AL5 2JQ.

Another case of mistaken identity?

A.A. Allen's note (*Ent Rec.* 102: 198) on apparent inter-specific courtship in butterflies prompts me to place on record a comparable observation.

In the morning of 7th June 1982, on a grassy bank at Cleaves Wood, near Wellow in Avon (formerly North Somerset), I watched a male Large Skipper *Ochlodes venata* repeatedly and persistently attempt to mate with a Burnet Companion *Euclidia glyphica*, of indeterminate sex. The latter would have none of it and after several minutes the *venata* gave up and flew off. It seems remarkable that attempted inter-specific mating should occur between members of two quite different families, until it is remembered that *glyphica* has some of the habits and superficial appearance of a skipper. Although there is evidence (*vide* Emmet & Heath, eds., *The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland*, vol. 7) that *venata* males can